

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, first paragraph:

Cross-reference to related applications

This application claims priority from Finnish patent application 20031378 filed 25 September 2003 and is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT/FI2004/000496.

Field of the invention

The invention relates to a method for fiberizing particularly paper and/or paperboard based material, for feeding a fiberized material, such as pulp wool, wood fiber or the like, subsequently to a further process, such as its application site, intermediate storage, shipping and/or the like. Fiberization is performed by means of a pulper, which is provided with a primary space for processing the material to be fiberized with a knife assembly included therein and rotating on a driving shaft, the material to be processed being forced, in order to fiberize the same, in response to its rotary motion through a screen assembly associated with, such as surrounding the knife assembly, into a secondary space present in the pulper, for supplying the fiberized material further through an expulsion opening of the pulper, to further processing.

Background of the invention

Page 3, second paragraph:

Summary of the invention

It is an object of the present invention to provide a decisive improvement with regard to the above problems and thereby to raise substantially the available prior art. In order to fulfil this objective, a method of the invention is principally characterized in that the knife assembly comprises a primary knife unit by which a material to be fed into the pulper is finally prepared for fiberization in a so-called integrated manner in conjunction with fiberization, and a secondary knife unit by which the material to be processed is fiberized by forcing it to pass first through the secondary knife unit, such as between vanes constituting such unit and disposed in overlying positions divergent relative to each other, and secondly through a screen assembly, such as a mesh, a grate, a perforated plate and/or the like, spaced from the knife assembly by a clearance.

Page 4, first paragraph:

~~Preferred applications for a method of the invention are set forth in dependent claims directed thereto.~~

Page 4, second paragraph:

~~The invention relates also to an apparatus operating in consistency with the method, which is defined more precisely in the preamble of the independent claim directed thereto. Features principally characteristic for an apparatus of the invention are set forth in the characterizing clause of the respective claim.~~

Page 5, first paragraph:

~~Preferred embodiments for an apparatus of the invention are set forth in dependent claims directed thereto.~~

Brief description of the drawings

Paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6:

Detailed description of embodiments of the invention

The invention relates to a method for fiberizing particularly paper and/or paperboard based material, for feeding a fiberized material, such as pulp wool, wood fiber or the like, subsequently to a further process, such as its application site, intermediate storage, shipping and/or the like. Fiberization is performed by means of a pulper 1, which is provided with a primary space A for processing the material to be fiberized with a knife assembly 1a included therein and rotating on a driving shaft s, the material to be processed being forced, in order to fiberize the same, in response to its rotary motion w through a screen assembly 1b associated with, such as

surrounding the knife assembly 1a, into a secondary space B present in the pulper 1, for supplying the fiberized material further through an expulsion opening UA of the pulper 1 to further processing. The said knife assembly 1a comprises, as shown e.g. in figs. 2 and 4, a primary knife unit 1a' by which a material to be fed into the pulper 1 is finally treated for fiberization in a so-called integrated manner in conjunction with fiberization, and a secondary knife unit 1a'' by which a material to be processed is fiberized by forcing it to pass first through the secondary knife unit 1a'', such as between vanes 1a''1 constituting the same and disposed in overlying positions divergent relative to each other, and secondly through the screen assembly 1b, such as a mesh, a grate, a perforated plate and/or the like, spaced from the secondary knife unit 1a'' by a clearance v.